

DX LISTENING DIGEST 1-077, May 25, 2001
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<http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/Dxldmid.html>

[NOTE: If you are a regular reader of DXLD, and a source of DX news but have not been sending it directly to us, please consider yourself obligated to do so. Thanks, Glenn]

WORLD OF RADIO 1081:

(stream) <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wor1081.ram>

(download) <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wor1081.rm>

(summary) <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wor1081.html>

WORLD OF RADIO and CONTINENT OF MEDIA and MUNDO RADIAL
SHORTWAVE-ONLY SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE MAY 25, 2001

It always pays to check all RFPI frequencies beyond their scheduled hours. This includes a new schedule issued May 17. On May 25 RFPI announced that 7445 would test AM some nights, SSB others, so we have removed the USB designation. For latest updates see our Anomaly Alert page <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/Anomaly.html>

Days and times here are strictly UT

Wed 2330 WOR WBCQ1 7415
Thu 0400 WOR WBCQ2 9330-CUSB [NEW from May 17]
Thu 2030 WOR WWCRC 15685
Fri 0930 WOR WWCRC 7435
Fri 1900 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Fri 1930 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Fri 2115 MR WWCRC 15685
Sat 0100 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 0130 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 0200 WOR WWCRC 3215
Sat 0700 COM RFPI 15049 7445
Sat 0730 WOR RFPI 15049 7445
Sat 1130 WOR WWCRC 15685
Sat 1300 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 1330 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 1730 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 1800 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
Sat 2330 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049

Sun 0000 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
 Sun 0230 WOR WWCN 5070
 Sun 0530 COM RFPI 15049 7445
 Sun 0600 WOR RFPI 15049 7445
 Sun 0628 WOR WWCN 3210
 Sun 1130 COM RFPI 15049 7445
 Sun 1200 WOR RFPI 15049 7445
 Mon 0000 WOR WWCN 3215 [9475 from June]
 Mon 0500 WOR WWCN 3215 [ex-3210 from May 21]
 Tue 1100 WOR WWCN 15685
 Tue 1900 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
 Tue 2000 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049
 Wed 0100 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
 Wed 0200 COM RFPI 15049 7445
 Wed 0700 WOR RFPI 15049 7445
 Wed 0800 COM RFPI 15049 7445
 Wed 1300 WOR RFPI 21815-USB 15049
 Wed 1400 COM RFPI 21815-USB 15049

Latest revision of this schedule version:
<http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wormassw.html>

** ARGENTINA/URUGUAY. Estimado Profesor Carlos Gerez:
 En verdad, Radio Esmeralda es una emisora no autorizada, o mejor dicho, transmite al margen de la ley, amparándose en la impunidad absoluta que hoy reina en la Argentina.

Su presencia en el aire no solo viola la normativa legal vigente en nuestro país (en otra de las paradojas y contradicciones de nuestra democracia, actualmente la ley de radiodifusión no lo es tal en el sentido formal de la expresión, sino que es un decreto emanado de la nefasta dictadura militar que gobernó nuestro país entre 1976/83), sino que es violatoria de tratados internacionales firmados por la Argentina.

Colegas argentinos han enviado correos electrónicos a las autoridades de, por ejemplo, Radio Carve, comentándoles de la situación existente, ya que la presencia de R. Esmeralda debe, indudablemente, perjudicar el área secundaria de cobertura de CX16 pero desafortunadamente nada se ha obtenido.

Sería importante que colegas y escuchas uruguayos presionen a las autoridades de su país para que desde Montevideo se impulse algún tipo de acción judicial por esta situación.- Atentamente
 (Arnaldo Slaen, May 23, via Conexión Digital, via DXLD)

A Arnaldo Slaen, y otros colegas, que hace un tiempo les solicité ayuda, por estaciones uruguayas:

Observo, que el espacio, destinado en onda media a Radio Carve, 850 kHz, est· ocupado en la Argentina por una tal Radio Esmeralda. Esta estaci·n no da su caracter·stica, por lo que creo que no es una radio con la licencia en orden. Carve, sale al aire con una potencia de 84 kW en antena, por lo que estimo que no puede autorizarse a transmitir as·, si el canal destinado a esta radio no fuera internacional. Les ruego que, en especial los diexistas del Uruguay, me respondan dentro de su medida. Muchas gracias, desde ya..... Prof. Carlos Gerez (via Conexi·n Digital via DXLD)

** BRAZIL. 5990, 24/05 0105, R·dio Senado, Bras·lia(DF), programa "Senado Not·cias - edi·o da noite", con informaci·n period·stica sobre la cassaci·n del mandato parlamentar del Senador Jos· Roberto Arruda y seguimiento musical de m·sicas brasile·as e programa de jazz ·s 0200 UTC; p·gina da emissora: <http://www.senado.gov.br/radio> e-mail: radio@senado.gov.br (C·lio Romais, Porto Alegre, Brasil, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

In case you are wondering, this is written in portu·ol (gh)

** CAMBODIA [non]. This from Ludo Maes:

There is a test transmission of Voice of Khmer Krom Radio on Friday 25 May 2001 from 1400 to 1500 UT on 15725 kHz. There is a link to the web site of the Khmer Kampuchea-Krom Federation at <http://www.shortwave.be/cla.html> Official broadcasts will start on 1 Jun 2001 and broadcasts will be on Fridays only. (TDP-BEL, May 25, 2001) (via Dan Ferguson, SWBC via DXLD)

Not audible here at 1400 May 25; this notice was posted at that moment on our Anomaly Alert page (gh, OK, DXLD) Only Bro. Stair heard here on 15725 (Dan Ferguson, DC, at 1443, SWBC via DXLD)

** CANADA. Drastic cuts at RCI: Complete info available at these two pages:

Outline of changes:

<http://www.geocities.com/rciaction/RCIRedepPlan010523.html>

RCI's Executive Director on the future of RCI:

<http://www.geocities.com/rciaction/OReilly23may2001.html>

The RCI Action Committee has posted notes from a meeting between RCI head Robert O'Reilly and RCI employees on May 23. Here are some highlights (or lowlights, as I consider them):

- All RCI programs in all languages will be eventually reduced to 30 minutes in length

- English and French weekend programs will re-run after the 30-minute program on weekdays
- The themes of English and French weekend programs are: Canada in the world, International Trade and Technology, Meet the Press, Arts and Culture, Mailbag and chat
- No news on weekends
- Foreign language programming: daily programs from Monday to Friday, weekly programs (on weekends?)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES:

June 1

Last broadcast of morning shows in English and French to Africa, the Middle East and Europe, last evening broadcast to India

June 2-3

First fully recorded weekend programs with no newscasts.

June 4

Production of two English and French daily current affairs magazines (present format)

June 11

Half-hour format for all foreign language programs.

October 1

Daily half hour format in English and French start (two in each language)

October 6

New weekly French and English programs, first aired during the weekend and repeated during the week, following the daily program.

November 5

Start of regular program evaluations (all programs)
(via Ricky Leong, swprograms May 24 via DXLD)

** CANADA. From Bridgenorth, Ontario: I caught CHNX Halifax on 6130 kHz from 2153 to 2236 yesterday (May 23) with a relay of CHNS 960 with a continuous loop ID tape playing overtop every couple of minutes. The signal was poor and the audio was terrible. They were best heard in USB or AM Synch USB. Still, not a bad catch for the low power. Apparently this is their 75th year in operation (May 12 being the official anniversary). CHNX's transmitter is located in Rockingham, a suburb of Halifax, and is only radiating 50 watts. CHNX 6130 in Halifax mentions their e-mail address as chnx@chns.com The website is still under construction. I had a reception report returned to me as undeliverable this morning (Mark Coady, Ontario,

ODXA list via DXLD)

Evidently they had been off the air a few weeks, including their anniversary special date, despite the publicity we rendered them (gh, DXLD)

** CANADA/AZERBAIJAN. Azeri radio on air in Vancouver | Excerpt from report by Azerbaijani newspaper Ayna on 25 May entitled "Vancouver. You are listening to Odlar Yurdu!"

Another step has been taken in the sphere of Azerbaijan's propaganda to our Diaspora. Azarbaycan Odlar Yurdu Radio has started broadcasting in Vancouver, Canada. The radio's main objective is to serve the political and cultural needs of all our compatriots living in foreign countries and instill trust in our past and future. The radio's management have said this in a statement sent to Ayna newspaper... Source: Ayna, Baku in Azeri 25 May 01 p9 (via BBCM via DXLD) WTFK? SCA? (gh, DXLD)

** COSTA RICA. RFPI news: have been testing the 30 kW transmitter to see if it will work on the upcoming MW channel 1620. Last night (UT May 25) we ran it all night in AM on 7445, instead of the 3 kW USB transmitter. Reports comparing 7445 and 15050 overnight are wanted to help decide which should have the 10 kW and which the 30 kW. 7445 may be AM some nights, and USB other nights until something be decided (RFPI Mailbag May 25 at 2000 UT; notes by gh for DXLD; both 21815-USB and 15049 had a power failure at 2025-2041 so could not hear last five minutes)

** FINLAND. Fernando de Sousa Ribeiro points out that YLE's Latin page is at <http://www.yle.fi/fbc/latini/> and the current schedule is at: <http://www.yle.fi/fbc/latini/latinsummer.html> (Fernandus Sousae Riparius, Portus Cale, Portucale via radioescutas via DXLD)

** KURDISTAN [non]. Kurdish radio station Voice of Mesopotamia heard on SW

A radio station identifying itself as Voice of Mesopotamia (Kurdish: Denge Mesopotamia) was observed by BBC Monitoring on 21 May from tune in at 1542 until sign-off at 1600 gmt on 15770 kHz. The broadcast consisted of Kurdish music and the following announcement repeated several times in Kurmanji, Sorani and Zazayee Kurdish and in Turkish: "Dear listeners, you can listen to our radio twice a day. You will hear our voice, the Voice of Mesopotamia, at 1100-1300 in the morning and at 1700-1900 in the evening, Amad [Diyabakir] time [0800-1000 and 1400-1600 gmt]. "Despite all the injustices and oppression, we have not been silenced. Our language has remained the same and songs were composed in this language and on this land and the story of this

people was written in it. Let this be your own voice. Look out for us; we are awaiting your requests with great anticipation." The broadcast, which appeared to be a test transmission, has not subsequently been observed. Source: BBC Monitoring research 21-25 May 01 (via DXLD)

Smacks of DTK site. Diya[r]bakir is in what is currently referred to as TURKEY; used to have a USAF base, AFRTS (gh, DXLD)

CLANDESTINE from BULGARIA to IRAQ 9960 Radio Forward heard signing on in Arabic at *1459 with female voice giving ID and reading the schedule of transmission, active in Arabic till 1535 and followed by Kurdish program till 1600*, SINPO 34232 (Mahmud Fathi, Germany, May 18, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** LITHUANIA. Glenn, Any idea on the identity of the QRM under the R. Vilnius broadcast at 2330 UT on 9875 kHz? 73, (-.. . Kraig, KG4LAC, Krist, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST) No, not yet

** LUXEMBOURG. During the last year I did take, from time to time, research on the subject, The early days of Radio Luxembourg. How did it all start, what was the offence in Britain and other countries. Also the Dutch, were they happy with the planned station and did the broadcast societies in Holland work together with Luxembourg. The researched period is 1932 up till 1940.

It has resulted in an essay which can be read in the online journal for media and music culture on the university of Groningen. Although it is in Dutch I know a lot of you can understand the Dutch language. But next to that many exclusive photographs can be found and also many airchecks from those early days.

Go to our site <http://www.icce.rug.nl/~soundscapes> and open Volume IV. It's the article called ``Het was een zogenaamde wilde zender`` Have fun; greetings (Hans Knot, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NETHERLANDS. Subject: Adding NA services to fill BBC's vacancy

Greetings! I suppose that you there at RN have been discussing the recent news from the BBC that they are dropping shortwave service to North America and Australia in July. If this actually happens, I can see a good opportunity for RN to fill the gap and capture the listeners that the BBC loses and who perhaps have not been regular RN listeners in the past.

I speak here only of North America. If the BBC goes away, there will be a core of morning listeners who previously listened to "Outlook", "Meridian", "Newshour", and other features in the 1300-1600 UT

timeframe who will be looking for other clear, strong, English-language shortwave signals with equivalently-interesting programming. Currently, the only options appear to be Radio Canada Int'l and R. Australia, with the latter having a much weaker signal.

I can see RN adding another two-hour block of North American coverage in English from Bonaire during this time period. You could just relay the same programming you will later carry in the American evenings, so there is no increase in programming expense; just the cost of the actual transmitter operation. One good frequency might do it, thus halving the two-frequency cost of the evening transmission.

Please consider this seriously. I, myself, used to listen pretty regularly to at least one hour of RN transmissions at 1430 UT from the Madagascar relay; the signal was usually readable up until the last schedule change made it un-usable here. But Bonaire would provide a great clear signal for this audience. Regards from a regular listener! (William Martin, Saint Louis, Missouri, May 25, to letters@rnw.nl cc to DXLD)

** RUSSIA. More on Ekho Moskvyy: Russian Radio Station Surviving
<http://www.latimes.com/wires/winternat/20010525/tCB00V5775.html>
(via Sergei Sosedkin, IL, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** SPAIN / U S A. CESSATION OF BROADCASTING FROM PLAYA DE PALS
TRANSMITTING STATION U.S. Broadcasting Board of Governors statement,
May 25, 2001

The United States Government has advised the Government of Spain and Radio Nacional de España of its intention to end broadcasting from the Transmitting Station at Playa de Pals, Spain, effective May 25, 2001.

In a public statement related today in Spain and in Washington, acting IBB Director Brian Conniff said, "The Playa de Pals Transmitting Station has had a long and distinguished history. Since the 1950s, it has played a critical role in bringing objective news and information to the people of the former Soviet Union. The BBG has operated the facility since 1995. On behalf of the U.S. Government and of my U.S. international broadcasting colleagues, I wish to acknowledge the years of dedication of the many men and women who have worked at Pals and to thank them for their valuable contributions to our work. I would also like to thank the Government of Spain, the Government of Catalunya, and our partners at Radio Nacional de España for their invaluable collaboration in helping the station accomplish its worthy mission. The U.S. Government will honor its commitments to each of the Pals Transmitting Station's employees by providing fair and equitable treatment in accordance with Spanish

labor law."

The U.S. Government, through its Broadcasting Board of Governors, has monitored changing political conditions and re-examined its shortwave broadcasting requirements for Russia and Central Asia, the primary coverage areas of the Pals facility. Today, the ability of newer and different media and the availability of other transmitting locations to reach the former Soviet Union, along with the development of democratic institutions and market-based economies in the region, have significantly diminished the utility of the Playa de Pals station as a U.S. Government broadcasting facility to the point where its continued broadcast operations can no longer be operationally or financially justified (via Kim Elliott, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Sadly, I report that the IBB transmitters at Playa de Pals, Spain, ended their last programming at 0800 GMT May 25 (Dan Ferguson, IBB, May 25, SWBC list via DXLD)

Read the full press release at <http://www.trsc.com/musings.html#IBB>. Thanks to Dan Ferguson for the breaking news! We can only wonder about the influences of the BBC spin doctors and suggest that you follow the money. What is the IBB up to now? (Tom Sundstrom, NJ, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

That's the way to do it! Cut off all those former Soviet SWLs abruptly without a chance to mount a protest campaign! So what happens to the Pals facilities? Junked, mothballed, moved, rented to new customers? (gh, DXLD)

** SVALBARD. Ham DXpedition planned July 12-19 to a most-wanted country. Details: <http://www.dxpedition.org> (via Al Arcangelo, radioescutas via DXLD)

** TANZANIA. Radio Tanzania noted on 5985 parallel to 5050 2000-2100, Swahili; 5985 clear now that Congo has moved to 4765, May 24 (Bob Padula, Victoria, Electronic DX Press via DXLD)

** U K. BBC Radio 2, 3, 4, picks for Sat, Sun, Mon, May 26, 27, 28, in the 1200-2400 UT period only:

We suggest you set your RealPlayer favorites for these by the links at <http://www.publicradiofan.com>

SATURDAY MAY 26

3 1200-1300 UT: 13:00 World Routes

This BBC Music Live broadcast from City Screen in York features a UK-wide performance on the world's first virtual gamelan. Lucy Dur

presents an edition entirely devoted to the Javanese gamelan, with live guests the York University Gamelan Orchestra. The climax will be the traditional piece Boat Song, in a performance open to everyone with access to the internet.

You can log on to BBC Online's own virtual gamelan at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio3/gamelan>, and play along at home with the broadcast. There is an online tutorial to allow you to put in hours of practice well in advance.

You can email comments and suggestions to: worldroutes@bbc.co.uk

2 1200-1230 UT: 13:00 The Arthur Smith Lectures

Professor Arthur Smith [University of Tooting Bec] continues his series of unique archive comedy lectures with a look at health and efficiency, your guide to clean living and self denial.

2 1230-1300 UT: 13:30 The News Huddlines

Roy Hudd, June Whitfield and Chris Emmett with a satirical revue based on the week's news. With Richard Clegg and music from Peter Moss and the Huddliners.

4 1630-1655 UT: 17:30 Back Row

Andrew Collins presents a weekly guide to the film world. He talks to the cast of Pearl Harbour, one of this summer's blockbusters, and reports on why cinema hates television.

4 1900-2000 UT: 20:00 The Archive Hour

Spies Like Us: Simon Hoggart tells the story of two of the world's most notorious spies, Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, who defected from Britain on 25th May 1951. News follows.

2 2000-2100 UT: 21:00 Stuart Maconie's Critical List

The Great Outdoors: Professional nostalgist Stuart Maconie enthuses over the records which he thinks should be in your collection, from million-seller classics to super-obscure gems.

3 2115-2145 UT: 22:15 ...And One

Simon Dove and Duncan Fraser present six programmes exploring the intimate relationship between dance and music, from first steps in a dance class to tackling the big scores and taking to the dance floor. Part 2: The Class Struggle

A look at what happens in the rehearsal rooms of the English National Ballet and the Adzido Pan-African Dance Ensemble.

3 2145-2400 UT: 22:45 Hear And Now

Sarah Walker presents a concert from the National Centre for Early Music, York, given by the New Music Players conducted by Patrick Bailey. With mezzos Louise Mott, Amanda Pitt and pianist Rolf Hind,

who appears both as composer and performer.

Rolf Hind: The Horse Sacrifice

Edward Dudley Hughes: The Sibyl Of Cumae

Brian Ferneyhough: On Stellar Magnitudes

Feldman: Palais De Mari

Carter: Triple Duo

4 2200-2230 UT: 23:00 MasterTeam

Peter Snow hosts a quiz which tests the general knowledge and risk-taking skills of teams from West Yorkshire and Chester. [Rpt of Mon 1.30pm].

4 2230-2300 UT: 23:30 Poetry Please

Frank Delaney introduces a selection of poems about love, in all shapes and forms. Readers are Fiona Shaw, Andrew Hilton, Sally Cookson and Stephen Thorne. [Rpt of Sun 4.30pm]

SUNDAY MAY 27

3 1300-1400 UT: 14:00 BBC Legends

Stephen Johnson continues his series celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Royal Festival Hall. Today's edition focuses on the 1980s and includes performances from celebrity artists Vladimir Horowitz and Itzhak Perlman.

2 1400-1500 UT: 15:00 Harry Makes Me Smile

A Tribute to Sir Harry Secombe: Jimmy Tarbuck introduces a host of stars celebrating the joyous life of one of our greatest treasures, the late Sir Harry Secombe.

4 1530-1600 UT: 16:30 Poetry Please

Frank Delaney introduces a selection of poems on a music theme, live from the Alhambra Studio Theatre in Bradford, for BBC Music Live. [Rptd Sat 11.30pm]. Then news summary.

3 1600-1645 UT: 17:00 Discovering Music

Chris de Souza explores one of the cornerstones of the chamber music repertoire - Schubert's Quintet in A, D667 (Trout). With musical examples played by the Schubert Ensemble of London.

4 1640-1655 UT: 17:40 Journey Into Language

Prof Eric Hawkins, pioneer of language teaching, recounts how his 'journey into language' began at primary school in 1920s Liverpool, with the help of a sixpenny pocket mirror from Woolworths and the redoubtable Miss Makins.

3 1645-1730 UT: 17:45 The Sunday Feature

2. Ukraine

Broadcaster and writer Julian Evans continues his exploration of the developments and connections between the novel writing traditions of European countries.

This episode takes him to the Ukraine, the former Soviet republic struggling to emerge with a clear identity after centuries of suppression. In physical terms the price of that suppression is only just being fully understood. The same applies in literary terms, with the Ukrainian language endeavouring to break out of the shadow of Russian language and literature.

There's also, for Ukrainian writers, the practical business of making money in a country which, until recently has seen spiraling inflation and zero growth. Julian talks to a cross section of novelists who are taking on the challenge.

4 1900-1930 UT: 20:00 Feedback

Roger Bolton airs listeners' views on BBC radio programmes and policy.

4 2230-2300 UT: 23:30 Something Understood

Sheena McDonald considers the importance of the sea in our lives.

[Rpt of Sun 6.05am]

4 2315-2350 UT: 00:15 Music Afloat

Short series about the role of music and musicians in sea journeys across the ages, with Sue Cook. 3: In the 30 years leading up to WWI, over a million Jews fled Eastern Europe for the golden land of North America. What part did music play in these voyages into exile?

[Followed by Bells on Sunday]

MONDAY MAY 28

4 1245-1300 UT: 13:45 A Passionate Affair

Marcel Berlins investigates the relationship between women crime writers and their heroes. Dorothy L Sayer talks about her relationship with Lord Peter Wimsey. Then News.

4 1445-1500 UT: 15:45 Tehran Stories

'Before the Revolution we prayed on the inside and partied on the outside. After the Revolution we prayed on the outside and partied on the inside.' In a five part series leading up to the Iranian Presidential elections, Zohreh Majidian returns to the country of her birth to gauge the mood of the people. Zohreh went to school in Tehran before she left with her family for the UK in 1979, and she revisits places after more than 20 years of Islamic rule. Talking to IT professionals, religious students, foreigners who stayed on after the Islamic Revolution and members of ethnic minorities, Zohreh

discovers compelling stories of a society in upheaval. News follows.

3 1500-1600 UT: 16:00 Opera In Action

Part of a series of four programmes exploring the operatic treasures of Prague. Here, Jan Smaczny takes a tour of the city in the 18th century and hears some of the music that provided the backdrop for Mozarts triumphant arrival with The Marriage of Figaro and Don Giovanni.

4 1730-1800 UT: 18:30 I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue

The antidote to panel games. Linda Smith joins regulars Tim Brooke-Taylor, Barry Cryer and Graeme Garden. Humphrey Lyttleton presides, and Colin Sell plays piano. [Rptd Sun 12.05pm] News follows.

3 1830-2300 UT: 19:30 Music Live: The World In A City

Andrew McGregor and Verity Sharp introduce the finale of a day long festival of world music, live from Bradford's Centenary Square and nearby St George's Hall.

The evening's line-up is as follows: [BST:]

7.30pm English folk singer Kate Rusby with accordion player John McCusker

8.15pm South African jazz star Hugh Masekela with his new seven-piece band

9.30pm Iranian santur player Ardavan Kamkar

10.40pm Jagit Singh, leading voice of the Indian ghazal scene.

Also includes highlights from the rest of the day's performances, including Finland's Gjallarhorn, France's Legop!, Bhangra artist Kuldeep Purewal, and French-Moroccan band Sawt El Atlas.

4 1930-2000 UT: 20:30 Mapping The Town

Glastonbury: Archaeologist Julian Richards concludes his four-part series showing how to discover your town's past through the streets and buildings of today. In Somerset he explores how Arthur, Guinevere and a young Jesus Christ all played a part in the ecclesiastical spin surrounding the success of medieval Glastonbury.

Then News.

4 2000-2030 UT: 21:00 Nature

Professor Jacquie McGlade investigates our waterways' future. With the likelihood that canals will re-emerge as routes for freight movement, will our rivers and wildlife survive? [Rptd Tue 11.00am]

4 2030-2100 UT: 21:30 A World Without

David Aaronovitch and guests debate the merits of a world without one of its constituent parts. This week experts and extroverts discuss a world without Sport. [Rpt of 9.00am]. Then Weather.

2 2030-2130 UT: 21:30 Rockin' With Suzi Q

Suzi Quatro presents a 13-part rock 'n' roll series. In this second episode, she features three 50s hits from the New Orleans label Ace, more car songs and a listener's rock 'n' roll memory.

(BBC Watson sites, picked by gh for DXLD)

** U K. I worked out the algebra again. If 88 percent listen to BBC via FM, and a third of that listen via shortwave, then the shortwave audiences tops off at 29.3 percent, or 675,000. That's still not too shabby.

This is what I now extrapolate, but somebody check my math:

100%	2,300,000	All BBC listeners in the United States
88%	2,024,000	All who listen via FM
59%	1,357,000	Listen via FM exclusively
29%	674,000	All who listen via shortwave
17%	398,000	Listen via shortwave plus FM
12%	276,000	Listen via shortwave exclusively

And we still don't know if these are past-week or past-year listeners (Kim Elliott, DC, swprograms via DXLD) {see DXLD 1-078!}

I have received a copy of the BBCWS English language engineering schedule showing the deletions planned for July 1st.

My very quick read of the spreadsheet shows the following plans for the Americas stream as of July 1st:

Local mornings:

5965 goes
6195 stays
9515 goes
15220 stays until 1400 only (used to switch to Sackville from 14 to 16)
17840 stays until 1500 weekdays, 1700 weekends (used to be from Sackville from this time then until 1800 weekdays)

Local evenings:

5975 stays (still beamed at 340 degrees from Antigua)
6135 (Delano) switches beam 180 degrees and targets South America
6175 goes
9590 goes
9915 stays
12095 stays

The cancellations include all transmissions originating from Sackville. Of course, I might have missed something here, and I trust sharp-eyed folks here will have near-instantaneous corrections! For me here in Pennsylvania, the bigger loss will be the mornings. I believe my evening listening will be largely unaffected, as I generally found 5975 more useful than 6175 (Richard Cuff, May 25, swprograms via DXLD)

The spreadsheet shows which transmissions have been marked out. Concerning the Pacific, these will go off:

0500-0900 11955 Rampisham, 0900-1100 11955 Singapore
0600-0805 9580 Skelton
1800-2200 9740 Singapore
2000-2200 5975 Singapore

For North America, these go off:

1300-1600 11865 WYFR

5965, 9515, 15220, 17840, 9590, 6175 when from Sackville, morning and evening.

Delano REMAINS: 0200-0400 6135, 0400-0700 6175 supposedly switching from 0 degree azimuth to 180 for C & SAm -- but this makes little sense.

Antigua REMAINS as before, on 6195 and 15220 mornings, 17840 midday, 5975 evenings.

As far as we are concerned, the major loss will be 9590, which has been Sackville 2200-0000, and Delano 0000-0200. But the overall loss looks like it will not be as severe as first thought. This does not mean we should give up on trying to keep BBC as before (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

For another version, From BBC World Service web site:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/schedules/010525_whichfreqs.shtml
Which frequencies are being cut and when will this happen?
Frequencies will be withdrawn from 1st July 2001 (via Geoff White, swprograms via DXLD)

I just got off the phone with the honorary consul in Philadelphia, Mr. Oliver Franklin, regarding the BBC. He returned a call I placed on Wednesday. He has a ham ticket, so he's intimately familiar with the BBCWS and listens to them via shortwave.

He had no knowledge at all about this, and is as unpleasantly surprised as we all are. He says that the FCO has a very well-run E-mail network, so he would have heard about this if word had been passed along. He thinks the decision is entirely inappropriate, and that the FCO in the US should have been consulted ahead of time. He, at least, was not.

He will be meeting with Ambassador Meyer next week in Washington and plans to raise he** over this. He asked for copies of the Byford letter from BBC On Air and my letter sent to Ambassador Meyer.

He agrees that contacting both the Embassy and the WS is the proper approach for this. More news later... (Richard Cuff, swprograms via DXLD)

Dear Mr Hauser,

They claim that they are not leaving their listeners but that their needs can be met by the internet and rebroadcasters in the US and Canada. These claims do not add up, since at least in Canada there is no broadcaster that takes the full range of BBC Programs and the Internet comes at a cost of connect time, etc.

The loss of the BBC is a real blow and I hope it may be reversed if enough people let them know that people still NEED Shortwave.

[later:] Just a quick note to pass on a reply of sorts that I received from the BBC. I sent an email to Brian Jarman who is listed as the contact person for Canadian Radio Stations who want to add BBC programs. In my email to him I pointed out that his list of stations was inaccurate for the Toronto area where I live and in reply he said:

"We're currently updating our list of stations, and I'm in Canada right now looking at ways of encouraging more use of BBC. Watch this space!"

It is incredibly frustrating that the BBC would pull the plug on short wave and yet not have done very much to insure that their programs will still be available. Whatever is available, I would be very surprised if it includes much music or any of the live weekend Sports coverage which, last time I checked, was not streamed at all from their web page.

Thanks for keeping people informed. All we can do is hope that there has been enough fuss to get the decision makers have a re-think.

(Mr. Sandy Finlayson, Toronto, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST).

How many BBC listeners are really online? Some reinforcement for our analysis of the real situation; this is from Centris, a Philadelphia-based research firm as reported by Brian Livingston, of Infoworld:

"Unfortunately for e-commerce sites, only 5 million U.S. households have broadband access, while a far larger number -- 37 million -- are limited to dial-up modem speeds. The study covered the period from the fourth quarter of 2000 to the first quarter of 2001."

While I can and do listen on line with a dial-up connection, it is nowhere near as good as a continuous connection would be. Further, in 42 million households represents about 41% of the US population (102 million households) {sic -??}. Even {if} you assume that shortwave listeners are more likely than the general population to be on line it is not a stretch to suggest that the BBC will be cutting off a major percentage of its present listeners (-Rob de Santos, -Vienna, West Virginia USA, May 25, swprograms via DXLD)

Dear Glenn, After listening to WOR 1081, I thought I might as well toss in my comments regarding BBCWS. Feel free to speak or publish them, if you wish. I guess I started listening off and on to their letter program "Write On" back in the 1980's. I think it was called something else back then [Letterbox]. Every time I listened, I got the feeling that BBC really didn't give a damn about what listeners thought. Most criticisms were answered with a somewhat smug, slightly sarcastic answer, which I always interpreted as, "We know what we are doing. You don't!" This was especially noticeable to me when BBCWS first split into three (I think) streams. Almost every letter they read said that people didn't want the split, but they just kept saying, "this is what we have decided." That is the moment when, for me, it began to no longer be the "World Service." Throughout the past few years, I have noticed the little changes. Splitting up into various streams, so you never could know what to hear when. Ceasing broadcast of Big Ben and the news theme. Electronic-sounding news sounders. All of these things might seem to have nothing to do with the actual program content, but they said to me, in a subtle way, "We don't care what we have been. We have a vision of what we want to become. It is our vision, and you will just have to take what you get." For this reason, I haven't even bothered to write to BBCWS concerning their ceasing of broadcasts to North America on shortwave. It seems pointless. If anyone over there cares, which I doubt, there is, to my knowledge, absolutely no BBCWS programming of any kind broadcast on any station here in Alabama. If I have missed some, it can only be the occasional newscast in the middle of the night (Tim Hendel, Huntsville AL, May 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. Communications World: On the program this weekend, an

interview with the CEO of Globecast-America. Via Telstar 5, Globecast provides many channels of foreign television and radio -- in foreign languages -- to immigrant and expatriate audiences in the United States.

Media news includes the closing of the IBB Playa de Pals shortwave relay facility, the RCI cuts, and Sheldon Harvey's analysis of the extent to which BBC programs really are rebroadcast by Canadian and U.S. domestic radio stations.

Audience participation focuses again on the BBC's decision to quit shortwave to the USA, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Hope you can tune in or log in. To receive the updated Communications World schedule by auto-reply, send an e-mail to cwschedule@voa.gov (Kim Andrew Elliott, Producer and Presenter, Communications World, VOICE OF AMERICA, swprograms May 25 via DXLD)

** UZBEKISTAN. Hi all, This evening (25.04.01) at 1945 I heard Radio Tashkent International in German on 15075 kHz (3 x 5025). vy 73 de (J,rgen Lohuis, Germany, harmonics@yahoogroups.com via DXLD) ###